

CLEAN VERSION OF AMENDED CLAIMS

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1. External door handle, in particular for vehicles, comprised of a bracket-shaped handle (10'', 10''') arranged on the outer side of the door and, at least over portions thereof, being hollow,

wherein the handle (10''; 10''') comprises at least one U-shaped shell (21; 21'') whose U-space (44, 44') serves for receiving the electronic components (16), and

wherein in the connected situation the U-shaped shell (21, 21'') is spanned at the visible side by a C-shaped front strip (20'', 20''') and is anchored thereat, wherein the two C-end sections (25''; 25) of the front strip (20''; 20''') engage an additional circumferential area of the U-shaped shell (21''; 21''') from above or from below and

the electronic components (16) are encapsulated water-tightly in a carrier open at the top.

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2. External door handle according to claim 1, wherein the C-front strip (20'') covers directly with one of its C-end sections (25'') the upwardly facing U-shell opening (32) of the shell (21).

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3. External door handle according to claim 1, wherein the U-shell opening (32') of the U-shaped shell (21''') is aligned relative to the front section (45) of the C-front strip (20'') and the front strip (20'') with its
 4. External door handle according to claim 2, wherein the two C-end sections (25'') of the C-front strip (20'') comprise a profiled snap element (36), such as a tooth recess (36), at their inner surface (38), respectively, and that this snap element in the connected situation engages a counter snap element, such as a tooth projection (37), provided on the shell.
 5. External door handle according to claim 1, wherein the C-front strip (20''; 20''') has substantially parallel extending C-end sections (25, 25'') and that, for realizing a connection, the C-end sections (25, 25'') can be snapped into place on the shell (21; 21''') by means of a lateral sliding assembly (34) of the C-front strip (20'').
 6. External door handle according to claim 4, wherein the snap element or counter snap element (36, 37) has a tooth profile and that the tooth profile on its tooth flank active in the connecting sliding direction (34) of the C-front strip (20'') has a leading slant (41) for the C-end sections (25'') while in the counter direction (43) a steep tooth flank (42) is provided.

7. External door handle according to claim 1, wherein the handle (10) is a two-part (21, 22) combination of a U-shaped base shell (21) and a cover shell (22) connected with the U-legs (23) of the base shell,

wherein between the two shells (21, 22) in the connected situation a contact seam (18) results at the visible side and the hollow space (14) between the two shells (21, 22) serves for receiving the electronic components (16), wherein the C-end sections (25) of the front strip (20) have hook-like angled C-ends (27),

wherein

in the connected situation, the two shells (21, 22) are spanned at the visible side by the front strip (20), wherein the two C-end sections (25) of the front strip (20) engage from above or from below a circumferential area of the shells (21, 22), respectively, and are arranged in an upper groove (29) of the cover shells (22) and a lower groove (28) of the base shell (21) in a sunk arrangement.

8. External door handle according to claim 7, wherein the base and the cover shells (21, 22) in the area of engagement from above or below of the front strip (20) have stepped recesses (26) and that these recesses (26) end at the upper groove (29) and the lower groove (28).

9. External door handle according to claim 1, wherein in the mounted situation the front strip (20, 20'', 20''') with its contour (30) has a flush transition into the shells (21, 22) or the shell (21, 21''').
10. External door handle according to claim 1, wherein the front strip (20; 20'', 20''') itself is provided at the visible side with a preferably let-in decorative cover (19).
11. External door handle according to claim 1, wherein the carrier for the electronic components (16) is a container (15) enclosed by walls on five of six sides, whose opening faces upwardly after mounting in the handle (10, 10'', 10''').
12. External door handle according to claim 11, wherein the container (15) is manufactured of hard plastic material.